

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 218881
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 PM-05 COME-00 DODE-00 NSF-02
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DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB:MJB
APPROVED BY OES/OFA/NST:WERB
ARA-LA/CEN -WMATTHEWS
-----081736 140329Z /62

R 131833Z SEP 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
AMCONSUL BELIZE

UNCLAS STATE 218881

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TPHY, TBIO, BH, HO, NU

SUBJECT: R/V ALPHA HELIX CLEARANCE REQUEST, 23 NOV - 22 DEC
1977

1. R/V ALPHA HELIX, A PRIVATE VESSEL OPERATED BY SCRIPPS INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY AND FUNDED BY NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OFF THE COASTS OF BELIZE, HONDURAS, AND NICARAGUA. THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH IS TO STUDY THE MOLECULAR COURSE OF GENE EVOLUTION. TECHNIQUES OF MOLECULAR BIOLOGY INCLUDING THE EXTRACTION, PURIFICATION, AND MEASUREMENT OF A VARIETY OF RELATED PROTEINS USING FISH AS A STARTING MATERIAL WILL BE EMPLOYED. THE MARINE FAUNA OF THE COASTAL REEFS WILL PROVIDE THE RICH SUPPLY OF DIVERSE BUT RELATED FISH SPECIES THAT WILL FORM THE CORE OF THE STUDY. PROMISING SPECIMENS WILL BE RETURNED TO HOME LABORATORIES FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS.

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2. FISH NETS, SEINES, TRAPS, AND SCUBA GEAR WILL BE USED TO CONDUCT THE STUDIES. A LIST IS BEING POUCHED WHICH IDENTIFIES THE SPECIES OF FISH TO BE STUDIED AS WELL AS A DETAILED TRACK CHART WHICH IDENTIFIES THE REEFS AND CAYS WHERE OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED. THE PROGRAM WILL BEGIN OFF BELIZE ON 23 NOV AND CONCLUDE AT COLON

ON 22 DEC.

3. DR. CLEMENT L. MARKERT OF YALE UNIVERSITY IS THE CHIEF SCIENTIST AND THERE ARE PARTICIPANTS FROM JOHNS HOPKINS, NORTH CAROLINA STATE U., U. OF HAWAII, U. OF ILLINOIS, AND U. OF CALIFORNIA.

4. BERTHS ARE AVAILABLE FOR ONE PARTICIPANT WHILE THE ALPHA HELIX IS OFF THE COAST OF THE COUNTRY GRANTING CLEARANCE. IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO LEAVE A PARTICIPANT ABOARD FOR A LONGER PERIOD DEPENDING UPON THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES. AFTER EACH COUNTRY MAKES KNOWN ITS DESIRE TO PARTICIPATE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR EMBARKING AND DISCHARGING PARTICIPANTS. ALL DATA RESULTS WILL BE SHARED WITH THE HOST COUNTRIES.

5. ALPHA HELIX IS 296 GROSS TONS WITH A LENGTH OF 133 FT. AND DRAFT OF 13 FT. SHIP'S CAPTAIN IS ROBERT C. NEWBEGIN WITH A CREW OF 12 AND SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 12. RADIO CALL SIGN IS KLFK AND SHIP MONITORS EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES WHILE UNDERWAY.

6. ACTION: EMBASSIES ARE REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE FOR ALPHA HELIX TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH DURING 23 NOV - 22 DEC 1977. VANCE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALPHA HELIX, OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE218881
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WERB:MJB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770332-0752
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770968/aaaacfv1.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 77c57f47-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1289277
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: R/V ALPHA HELIX CLEARANCE REQUEST, 23 NOV - 22 DEC 1977
TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, TPHY, TBIO, TOCY, BH, HO, NU
To: MANAGUA TEGUCIGALPA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/77c57f47-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009